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## *Funds Block Counterintelligence*

There's a lesson in the 11 years it took U.S. security men to discover the 40 Russian microphones hidden in the American embassy in Moscow.

This security failure could have been prevented, electronic engineers say. But we didn't have the proper detection equipment.

The value of billions of the \$460 billion spent for national defense since 1952 could have been compromised for lack of \$500,000 more a year for research and development on counterintelligence and security devices—including electronic and ultrasonic gadgets for detecting hidden microphones in U.S. embassies all over the world.

These funds could have been diverted from the overproduction of some types of quickly obsolescent weapons.

The Soviet Union has not made that mistake. It has pushed hard the past 11 years on developing intelligence sensing devices far more sophisticated and difficult to detect than those discovered in the Moscow embassy.

It is believed, for example, that the Russians have developed a thin invisible coating which can be put on window panes. These win-

dows and this coating would vibrate picking up the sounds of voices in a room. With a radar stationed on a nearby building, the Russians could pick up the conversations.

The Russians are also said to have devices they could place inside water and steam pipes. Because these would be protected by the surrounding pipe, they'd be almost impossible to detect, 'til the plumbing went bad.

The State Department has started to rectify its problems.

Two and a half months ago it installed able, energetic G. Martin Gentile, fresh from 11 years at the Central Intelligence Agency, as deputy assistant secretary of state for security.

It has been during his short tenure that the Moscow microphones were discovered by brute force, tearing up the rooms. A review of security and counterintelligence procedures has been started. The State Department probably will ask for a step-up in security research, development and production funds. Some \$4 million has been spent all together in the past three years.

The problem, government men say, is that "only a piddling amount" was spent during the previous decade to develop needed devices.

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